

## THE IDENTITY OF A "LOST SPECIES": *CERMA GALVA* STRECKER, 1898 (LEPIDOPTERA, NOCTUIDAE)

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*Abstract.*—*Cryphia galva* (Strecker) 1898, described from Clyde, New York, is identified as a Colorado species, *Cryphia olivacea* Smith, 1891, NEW SYNONYM. The adult moths and dissections of the male and female genitalia are illustrated.

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*Cerma galva* Strecker was described from a unique male specimen, the holotype (Fig. 1), deposited in the Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois. The specimen bears a label attributing it to W. L. Devereaux, Clyde, New York. Little further is known of this moth. Forbes (1926) was of the opinion that it was "a lost species, most likely not from N.Y." In recent years extensive collecting in Wayne and surrounding counties (Adams, Franclemont, Chapman, pers. comm.) has also failed to discover the species.

It has been possible to trace and visit the type locality. Devereaux's granddaughter resides on the farm and shared a series of letters between Herman Strecker, Berks County, Pennsylvania and Devereaux. The Strecker-Devereaux correspondence for the most part consists of lists, including rough sketches of moths sent by Devereaux to Strecker for determination. The letters from Strecker date from 1876. No mention is made of *Cerma galva*, nor for that matter of the other two species Strecker described from Clyde, New York in 1898 (*Agrotis azif*, synonym of *Euxoa detersa* form *personata* Grote and *Hadena lona*, a synonym of *Apamea indocilis* Walker). Likewise, Devereaux made no acknowledgement of Strecker's determinations in his published list (Devereaux 1879).

*Cerma galva* was recognized by Forbes (1954) as "... a *Bryophila*, and almost certainly the European *B. muralis*..." In the most recent American check list (Franclemont and Todd, 1983) *Bryophila* is a synonym of *Cryphia* Hübner. This genus is represented by several species in the western United States and across Eurasia. However, no species are known from east of the Great Plains in the United States. All the known host records of the genus have been on lichens (Franclemont, pers. comm.).

The synonymy was recognized when examining specimens of *Cryphia olivacea* Smith (Fig. 2) collected by one of the authors (TLM) from Estes Park, Colorado, elevation 9,000 ft. The synonymy was confirmed by comparison with a dissection of the lectotype of *C. olivacea* in the United States National Museum of Natural History through the courtesy of Robert Poole. The dissection of the holotype of *C. galva* (Fig. 3) was damaged in preparation, however dissection of a series of males from the Estes Park population demonstrated that both types were within the normal range of variation for the species. Dissections of both sexes from Estes Park are illustrated (Figs. 4-6).



Figs. 1-6. *Cryphia* species: 1) *Cerma galva* Strecker, 1898. Holotype. Photograph Eric Metzler; 2) *Cryphia olivacea* Smith, Estes Park, Colorado. Collection and photograph TLM; 3) *Cerma galva* Strecker, 1898. Holotype. Genitalia dissection A. E. Brower, photograph J. G. Franclemont; 4) *Cryphia olivacea* Smith, male genitalia, aedeagus removed, Estes Park, Colorado. Dissection and photograph TLM; 5) *Cryphia olivacea* Smith, 1891. Female genitalia dissection and photograph TLM; 6) *Cryphia olivacea* Smith, aedeagus, same data.

It is probable that the confusion surrounding the identity of *C. galva* arose when Strecker mislabelled material received from Colorado. In 1898 he also described material received from Glenwood Springs, Colorado, elevation 6,000 ft. Barnes and McDunnough (1916) illustrate *C. olivacea* from the latter locality. The species is also illustrated in Hampson (1908).

Catalogue listing should appear as follows:

*Cryphia olivacea* (Smith)

(Figs. 1-6)

*Cerma olivacea* Smith, 1891:103. Dyar, 1902:106. Smith, 1893; Hampson, 1908: 653. Barnes and McDunnough, 1916:165. McDunnough, 1938:93. Todd, 1982: 159.

Type locality: USA: Colorado, male Type No. 71 [USNM, Washington].  
Genitalia preparation, USNM 43,238.

*Cryphia olivacea*; Franclemont and Todd, 1983:136.

*Cerma galva* Strecker, 1898:5. NEW SYNONYMY. Smith, 1893. Dyar, 1902:106. Forbes, 1926:644. McDunnough, 1938:93. Forbes, 1954:250.

Type locality: USA: Clyde, New York, male. [Field Museum, Chicago].  
Genitalia preparation, A. E. Brower No. 3; 24-I-68.

*Cryphia galva*; Franclemont and Todd, 1983:136.

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Received June 27, 1989; accepted September 29, 1989.